

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 14 and 30 as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said authorization comprises the sub steps of:

prompting said user to enter a user personal identification means (PIM) in response to selecting said communication access number;

initiating a pre-determined security protocol to retrieve a corresponding secure PIM for comparison;

correlating said user personal identification means with said secure PIM;

authorizing or rejecting said dialing action in response to said correlation;

retrieving secure device driver code for executing said dialing action using said security protocol in response to said authorization;

displaying, if said dialing action is authorized, a connectivity cost alert for said communication link; and

executing said dialing action using said device driver code for said communication link in response to said authorization and a user response to said connectivity cost alert.

Claim 3 (previously presented) A method of integrating telephony function with security and guidance features on an Internet appliance comprising the steps of:

selecting a communication access number using a selection means, said communication access number operable to access a communication link via said Internet appliance;

alerting a user of said Internet appliance when an attempt is made to select said communication link via a dialing action of said Internet appliance using said communication access number;

receiving an authorization for said dialing action by said user of said Internet appliance; and

using a security protocol for encrypting and decrypting information transmitted on said communication link in response to authorizing said dialing action for said communication link.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said security protocol is a Public/Private key encryption protocol.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein a PIM is used to grant or block access to certain area or country telephony codes.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

matching said communication access number with an actual system entered communication access number.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

monitoring an incoming call for a caller ID; and

answering and routing said incoming call to a receiving device on the basis of said incoming telephone number.

Claim 8 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

using a built-in key escrow function to notify a trusted server of a current dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) assigned IP address along with a key indicating authenticity of transmission so that voice over IP services between devices and a web page server lookup may be performed in a DHCP environment without side-channel communication for call or web reference look-up.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein activating said selected communication access number comprises selecting said communication access number from a displayed Internet web page hot spot .

Claim 10 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said communication access number is selected using an actual or virtual keypad of said Internet appliance.

Claim 11 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said communication link comprises a non-concurrent shared dial-up public switched telephone network (PSTN) connection between a telephone connection and an Internet connection.

Claim 12 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said communication link has separate connections for an Internet connection and a telephone connection.

Claim 13 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said communication link comprises a concurrent communication link for an Internet and a telephone connection.

Claim 14 (currently amended) A system for integrating telephony function with security and guidance features on an Internet appliance (IA):

one or more personal identification means (PIM) input units coupled to a system bus in [[said]] an ICA, said PIM input units operable to generate unique PIM signals;

a security protocol circuit operable to encrypt, decrypt, store and retrieve said PIM signals and device driver code;

a PIM verification circuit operable to receive said PIM signals and compare them to secure predetermined PIM signals, said PIM verification circuit generating a verification signal;

one or more Modems coupled to a dialing action controller and to communication lines; said Modems operable to send and receive communication data; and

a dialing action controller (DAC) coupled to said system bus and said Modems, said DAC operable receive a dialing action request and to alert a user of said dialing action and to enable or disable said dialing action to said Modems in response to said verification signal and a user signal.

Claim 15 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein an authorization unit comprises:

- a smart card reader;
- a biometric input unit;
- a personal identification number input unit; and
- a voice recognition input unit.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:

- a digital subscriber line (DSL) Modem.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:

- a wireless cellular modem.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:

- a wireless personal communication system (PCS) modem.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:

- a cable Modem.

Claim 20 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises a public subscriber telephone network (PSTN) Modem.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said DAC alerts said user of a dialing action by display on a user display screen coupled to said IA.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said DAC retrieves a connectivity cost and alerts said user of a connectivity cost associated with a requested dialing action if said dialing action is authorized.

Claim 23 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said user signal is a response by said user to a connectivity cost alert for said dialing action.

Claim 24 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said user is given an option of communicating on an established communication link in response to an authorized and enabled dialing action using a security protocol.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said DAC uses a built-in key escrow function to notify a trusted server of a current dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) assigned IP address along with a key indicating authenticity of transmission so that voice over IP services between devices and a web page server lookup may be performed in a DHCP environment without side-channel communication for call or web reference look-up.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said dialing action request comprises:

entering a communication access number via a keyboard keypad, a virtual display keypad, or by clicking a "hot spot" on a Web page.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said connectivity cost alert notifies a user of an actual toll call cost for a communication link corresponding to said authorized and enabled dialing action.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein said user is alerted of said dialing action whether said dialing action was initiated locally or remote by another user.

Claim 29 (previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein DAC monitors incoming communication access numbers and directs communication to a answering or recording device or forwards the communication to another communication link in response to comparing said incoming communication access numbers to a predetermined, stored communication access numbers list.

Claim 30 (currently amended) An Internet appliance, comprising:

- a central processing unit (CPU);
- a read only memory (ROM);
- a random access memory (RAM);

a user interface adapter coupled to a keyboard and a mouse;
a display interface adapter coupled to a user display;
an I/O interface adapter;
a system bus;
a communication adapter; and
a security processor unit,
said security processor unit further comprising:

one or more personal identification means (PIM) input units coupled to a system bus in [[said]] an ICA, said PIM input units operable to generate unique PIM signals;

a security protocol circuit operable to encrypt, decrypt, store and retrieve said PIM signals and device driver code;

a PIM verification circuit, said PIM verification circuit operable to receive said PIM signals and compare them to secure predetermined PIM signals, said PIM verification circuit generating a verification signal;

one or more Modems coupled to a dialing action controller and to communication lines, said Modems operable to send and receive communication data; and

a dialing action controller (DAC) coupled to said system bus and said Modems, said DAC operable receive a dialing action request and to alert a user of said dialing action and to enable or disable said dialing action to said Modems in response to said verification signal and a user signal.

Claim 31 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein a PIM input unit of said PIM input units comprises:

a smart card reader;
a biometric input unit;
a personal identification number input unit; and
a voice recognition input unit

Claim 32 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said Modem comprises:

a digital subscriber line (DSL) Modem.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:
a wireless cellular modem.

Claim 34 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises:
a wireless personal communication system (PCS) modem.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises a cable Modem.

Claim 36 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein a Modem of said Modems comprises a public subscriber telephone network (PSTN) Modem.

Claim 37 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said DAC alerts said user of a dialing action by display on a user display screen coupled to said IA.

Claim 38 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said DAC retrieves a connectivity cost and alerts said user of a connectivity cost associated with a requested dialing action if said dialing action is authorized.

Claim 39 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said user signal is a response by said user to a connectivity cost alert for said dialing action.

Claim 40 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said user is given an option of communicating on an established communication link in response to an authorized and enabled dialing action using data encryption.

Claim 41 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said DAC uses a built-in key escrow function to notify a trusted server of a current dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) assigned IP address along with a key indicating authenticity of transmission so that voice over IP services between devices

and a web page server lookup may be performed in a DHCP environment without side-channel communication for call or web reference look-up.

Claim 42 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said dialing action request comprises:

entering a communication access number via a keyboard keypad, a virtual display keypad, or by clicking a "hot spot" on a Web page.

Claim 43 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said connectivity cost alert notifies a user of an actual toll call cost for a communication link corresponding to said authorized and enabled dialing action.

Claim 44 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein said user is alerted of said dialing action whether said dialing action was initiated locally or remote by another user.

Claim 45 (previously presented) The Internet appliance of claim 30, wherein DAC monitors incoming communication access numbers and directs communication to a answering or recording device or forwards the communication to another communication link in response to comparing said incoming communication access numbers to a predetermined, stored communication access numbers list.